



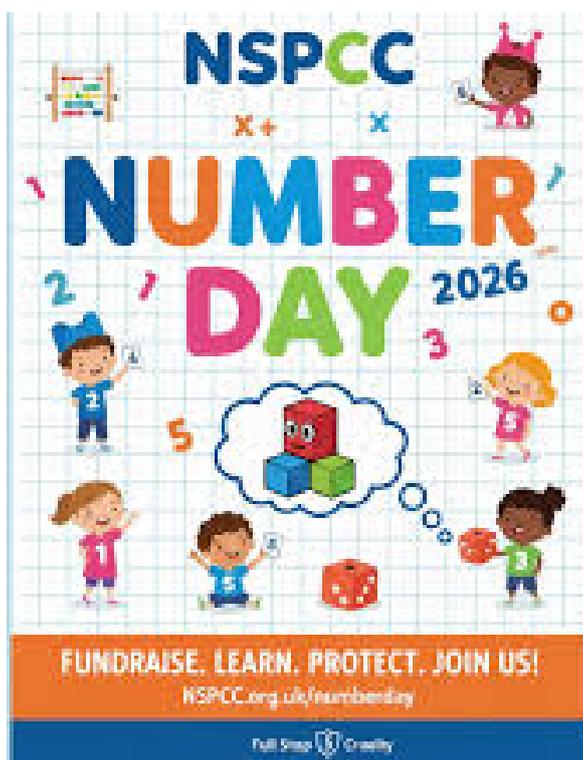
# Newsletter

Friday 30th January 2025

## Number Day

Next Friday we will be celebrating Number Day in school. We will be completing fun maths inspired activities in the morning. We will also be holding a school wide TT Rockstars tournament.

Can Year 3 children score higher than a Year 6 class? We will find out by the end of the competition!



## Netball Tournament

Last week, a group of Year 6 children attended a netball afternoon at Maricourt High School. The children played three matches against different schools and won all three. The scores were 5-2, 5-3 and 17-0. This has lifted Davenhill towards the top of the MADCOS Netball League table with just one afternoon left of fixtures to play. All of the children played brilliantly and were a credit to our school. Lucas and Ivy-Rose both were awarded 'Player of the Match' wrist bands during the afternoon. Well done Year 6!



# Children's Mental Health Week: "This is My Place" 2nd-6th February



Next week, we will be marking Children's Mental Health Week throughout school. The theme for 2026 is "This is My Place" which focuses on the vital importance of belonging. We will be exploring how feeling connected to our families, friends, and school community helps us feel safe, valued, and ready to thrive. When a child feels they have a "place" where they belong, it builds the emotional resilience they need to learn, play, and grow with confidence.

Throughout the week, the children will be engaging in a variety of thoughtful and creative activities designed to strengthen these connections:

- **Finding Our Place in Art:** Classes will be taking part in a special "This is My Place" art project, creating visual representations of the spaces and groups where they feel most at home.
- **Building Connections:** We are hosting "Partner Class" sessions, where older and younger classes pair up for shared story times and outdoor walks to foster a sense of community across the whole school.
- **Mindful Discussions:** In PSHE lessons, children will participate in lessons focused on kindness and inclusion, learning how they can help make sure everyone in their class feels like they truly belong.

We will conclude the week with an own clothes day on Friday 6th February. Under the theme "This is Me" children are encouraged to wear outfits or colours that express their unique personalities, celebrating the fact that our school is a place where everyone is accepted for who they are.

# Important Reminders

Children should have a pair of trainers to wear when playing games outdoors and a pair of pumps for indoor use. A pair of pumps and a pair of shorts should be left in school for children to wear for their gymnastics lessons. Children are able to come into school in their P.E kit of trainers and tracksuit bottoms but they are not able to wear these items when using the gym equipment so need shorts and pumps in school. Pumps cannot be worn outside as this damages the grip needed for gymnastics.

## P.E Kit:

Black shorts

Black plain tracksuit

Plain white t-shirt

Plain black slip on pumps (for indoor use)

Trainers (for outdoor use)

It is important that if the children are wearing their tracksuit or shorts for P.E lessons they should be plain black. There should not be any images, logos or stripes. Leggings are not part of our P.E uniform, children should wear a tracksuit.

## Long Hair

Long hair should be tied back for school. For safety reasons in P.E lessons, it is essential that long hair is tied back.

## Make-up and Nail Varnish

Children should not wear any make-up for school and will be given a facial wipe to remove it if they do. Nail varnish shouldn't be worn for school and children are not allowed to come to school wearing acrylic or artificial nails.

## Earrings

Children should wear small stud earrings. Again for safety reasons, we ask that earrings are not worn on days that the children have P.E lessons (this includes swimming sessions). If children forget, they will be asked to remove the earrings. If they are unable to remove the earrings independently, then unfortunately they will not be able to take part in the P.E lesson.

## School Shoes

School shoes should be black sensible shoes or black trainers.

## House Team Competition

This week, the winning team was ROSE! Well done!



1. ROSE(4551 points)

2. ABBEY (4336 points)

3. MILL (4295 points)

4. VALLEY (4237 points)



# Attendance

Regular attendance makes a powerful difference to every child's learning and wellbeing. In primary schools, children who attend school consistently achieve higher outcomes in reading, writing and maths, feel more confident with their friendships, and are better supported to stay safe and healthy. Even missing a small number of days can quickly add up to lost learning time, making it harder for children to keep up and enjoy school fully. By coming to school every day, children build strong routines, develop resilience, and experience the happiness that comes from belonging to a caring community. When your child is not in school we miss them, feel their absence and so do their friends. When families and schools work together to make attendance a priority, children are more likely to thrive — academically, socially and emotionally — giving them the best possible start for their bright future.



## Smartwatches



We would like to remind you of our policy regarding smartwatches in school. While we understand that these devices can be extremely useful and appealing, they are not permitted during school hours for several important reasons.

Firstly, safety is our top priority.

Smartwatches are wristwatches with smart technology in them. They have apps built into them that can be used to tell the time, take a photograph, send and receive text and voice messages, make calls and listen to music and this poses concerns regarding privacy and security. It is essential that we maintain a safe environment for all of the children.

Smartwatches can be distracting and may lead to children being less engaged in their learning. Additionally, there is a risk of loss or damage if a child wears a smartwatch for school.

We kindly ask for your support with this.



## Book Swap



As part of our celebration of the National Year of Reading, we are excited to announce a Book Swap for all children during the week beginning 9th February. To join in the fun, simply give a pre-loved book that you no longer read, to your classteacher by Friday 6th February. In exchange, your child will receive a token that can be used to select a different pre-loved book donated by others.

For further details, look out for the posters around school. We can't wait to see the wonderful books that will be shared.

## Blue Peter Book Club

We are excited to share that the children may be interested in joining the Blue Peter Book Club! This fantastic initiative is all about sharing the joy of reading. Keep watching Blue Peter as they will be exploring six incredible books, from nature poetry to fantastic fiction, and even an astronaut's guide to space travel!

Joining the Blue Peter Book Club is super easy, and everyone is welcome to be part of the fun. Choose a book from their list (or pick one of your own) and start reading. Don't forget, a trip to your local library can make reading even more enjoyable!

For more details, visit: [Blue Peter Book Club](#)



## 4B Class Assembly

We all really enjoyed 4B's recent assembly last week, where they presented their ten favourite things from the Autumn term. It was lovely to see such enthusiasm and positive attitudes from the children. It was evident how much they enjoy learning and being in school.

During the assembly, the children shared their personal achievements and showcased their talents through dance and their class song. Their performances reflected their hard work and it was fantastic to see their creativity.

A big thank you to 4B for reminding us of the importance of celebrating our successes together. Well done for performing your parts for the assembly so well. Thank you to Mrs Blakely, Miss Yule and Miss Allwood for helping the children prepare.

## 6G Class Assembly

This week, 6G's assembly was a wonderful experience for the children, parents and staff as the children showcased their fantastic learning about North America. They brought their knowledge to life, demonstrating not only what they had learned but also how much they enjoyed the experience.

Their performance was fantastic, filled with raps and songs that engaged the audience. It was brilliant to see how their enthusiasm made learning fun for everyone present. The children spoke so confidently and clearly, making us all incredibly proud of their achievements.

A special thank you goes to Mrs Gibson, Mr Hardwick and Miss Boileau who worked hard to help the children prepare for this assembly.

# Term Time Absence Fining Procedures

We would like to take a moment to discuss an important topic: school attendance and the associated fines for holidays for a total of 5 days (within a 10-week period). As you may know, Sefton Education Authority has specific procedures in place regarding attendance. We would like to remind you that any fines imposed for unauthorised absences do not originate from the school itself and, importantly, do not benefit us in any way. Our primary goal is to ensure that every child has the opportunity to learn and thrive in a supportive environment.

We are committed to following the Sefton's guidelines fairly for all families. We encourage open communication, so if you have any concerns or questions about a term time absence for a holiday, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring that our children receive the best education possible.

## Amazing Attendance

Well done to class 3H and class 6E whose attendance has been excellent since we have returned to school in January!

## Nursery Application

**! Deadline !**

A reminder that the application deadline for Nursery September 2026 cohort is Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026

## Snack and Packed Lunch Reminders

As part of our ongoing commitment to being a 'healthy school', we would just like to remind you that at break times, the following snacks are permitted:

- Fruit
- Veg
- Cereal bars
- Crackers, rice cakes etc.
- Yoghurt (e.g. frubes etc.)

We ask that you avoid giving your child crisps, pastries, chocolate covered items, etc. during break times.

Packed lunches should also not contain any sweets, chocolate bars or fizzy drinks. Such snacks can have a detrimental effect on children's focus throughout the day. We suggest a biscuit/small cake as a treat in packed lunches. We are a 'nut aware' school and so would ask that children do not bring to school any food that contains nuts as children within our school can have a severe allergic reaction even to indirect contact with nuts.

As part of our weekly PSHE lessons, we work hard on teaching the children about good nutrition and a healthy, balanced diet. We ensure the children are aware that such treats are fine on occasion, however, staff have become increasingly concerned by the amount of less healthy snacks that are being consumed on a daily basis on the playground and in the lunchroom.

We appreciate your ongoing support. If you have any queries or concerns, please speak directly with your class teacher.

## Sefton Social Care Advice Line for SEND

In recognition that families of children and young people with complex needs and special educational needs often need a bit more support, Sefton has launched a Social Care Advice Line for SEND.

This advice line is staffed by two experienced social workers with a good knowledge of the Local Offer in Sefton. Parents are invited to use this phone number to find out more about what a Social Care assessment for a child entails to help families make an informed decision before approaching Social Care, and to talk about what other help might be available. Voicemails will be responded to within 7 days at which point the social worker will return the call for a discussion.

The telephone number for our Social Care Advice Line for SEND is 0151 934 2196.

The social workers will not create a referral or record any family details when families ring for advice using this phone number.

All referrals for social care assessment or concerns about a child should continue to be referred through our Integrated Front Door. Please note, this number is not the contact number for the duty social worker in our Children with Complex Needs service and should not be used for this purpose.